

CLAIMS

What I Claim Is:

1. An illuminated personal safety device comprising:

first and second panels, each of said panels including at least one light emitting device;

5 a battery power source electrically connected to said light emitting devices;

said first and second panels being pivotally connected and configurable between a closed configuration wherein said panels are disposed in face to face relation, and an open configuration wherein said panels are disposed in a generally planar side by side relation;

means for electrically connecting said light emitting devices to said battery power source

10 when said panels are configured in the open configuration and for electrically disconnecting said light emitting devices from said battery power source when said panels are configured in the closed configuration.

2. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 1, wherein said means for

15 electrically connecting said light emitting devices to said battery power source includes at least one set of electrical contacts, said electrical contacts disposed in mating engagement when said panels are configured in the open configuration and disposed in spaced relation when said panels are configured in the closed configuration.

20 3. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 1, further including means for mounting said device to a bicycle.

4. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 1, further including means for mounting said device to a person.

5. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 1, wherein said first and second panels include end portions, each end portion including at least one light emitting device adapted to function as a turn signal, and means for selectively activating one of said turn signals in response to the angular position of said safety device.

6. An illuminated personal safety device comprising:

first and second panels, each of said panels including at least one light emitting device;

a battery power source electrically connected to said light emitting devices;

10 said first and second panels being pivotally connected and configurable between a closed configuration wherein said panels are disposed in face to face relation, and an open configuration wherein said panels are disposed in a generally planar side by side relation;

means for electrically connecting said light emitting devices to said battery power source

when said panels are configured in the open configuration and for electrically disconnecting said

15 light emitting devices from said battery power source when said panels are configured in the closed configuration;

said first and second panels further including illuminated turn signals and means for

selectively activating said turn signals in response to the angular position of said device.

20 7. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 6, wherein said means for selectively activating said turn signals includes at least one normally open tilt switch.

8. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 6, wherein said first and

second panels further include means for displaying illuminated indicia.

9. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 8, wherein said means for displaying illuminated indicia includes a translucent panel.

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10. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 8, wherein said means for displaying illuminated indicia includes a plurality of light emitting devices arranged to collectively form said indicia when illuminated.

10. 11. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 6, further including means for mounting said device to a bicycle.

12. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 6, further including means for mounting said device to a person.

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13. An illuminated personal safety device comprising:
first and second pivotally connected panels, each of said panels including a face portion having a primary light emitting device;
said first and second panels each including a distal end, each distal end including a
20 secondary light emitting device;

a battery power source electrically connected to said primary and secondary light emitting devices;

said first and second panels pivotally configurable between a closed configuration wherein

said panels are disposed in face to face relation, and an open configuration wherein said panels are disposed in a generally planar side by side relation;

means for selectively electrically connecting said light emitting devices to said battery power source, whereby said primary light emitting devices are illuminated when said panels are 5 configured in the open configuration, and not illuminated when panels are configured in the closed configuration;

first and second normally open tilt switches for selectively electrically connecting said secondary light emitting devices to said battery power source when said panels are configured in the open configuration and said device is angularly disposed relative to horizontal;

10 said first tilt switch configured to illuminate said secondary light emitting device on said distal end of said first panel when said device is angularly disposed such that said first panel distal end is vertically lower than said second panel distal end;

said second tilt switch configured to illuminate said secondary light emitting device on said distal end of said second panel when said device is angularly disposed such that said second panel 15 distal end is vertically lower than said first panel distal end.

14. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 13, further including means for mounting said device to a bicycle.

20 15. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 13, further including a belt for mounting said device to a person.

16. An illuminated personal safety device according to claim 13, wherein said secondary light emitting devices blink while illuminated.